



# Rangitikei District Council

## Policy/Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes – Thursday 15 September 2016 – 1:06 p.m.

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**Present:** Cr Lynne Sheridan (Chair  
Cr Richard Aslett  
Cr Cath Ash  
Cr Angus Gordon  
Cr Rebecca McNeil  
Cr Soraya Peke-Mason  
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

**In attendance:** Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager  
Ms Denise Servante, Strategy & Community Planning Manager  
Ms Katrina Gray, Policy Analyst  
Ms Carol Downs, Executive Officer  
Ms Samantha Whitcombe, Governance Administrator

**Tabled documents:** **Item 13 Better Urban Planning** – Key Differences

## 1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2 Apologies/Leave of absence

Nil

## 3 Confirmation of order of business

The Chair informed the Committee that there would be no change to the order of business from that set out in the agenda.

## 4 Confirmation of minutes

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/075**                      **File Ref**

That the Minutes of the Policy/Planning Committee meeting held on 11 August 2016 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Ash. Carried

## 5 Chair's Report

The Chair thanked Cr Aslett (the Deputy Chair) for his help and support throughout the triennium. His Worship the Mayor congratulated the Chair on the work the Committee had accomplished throughout the triennium.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/076**                      **File Ref**                      3-CT-15-1

That the Chair's Report to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 15 September 2016 be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

## 6 Queries raised at previous meetings

Nil

## **7 Council-initiated District Plan Change – Update**

Ms Gray gave a brief update on progress with the District Plan Change. It is currently in the appeal period (which ends 7 October 2016 i.e. when submitters may appeal to the Environment Court any of the decisions made by the Commissioner).

She asked the Committee for feedback on the process that was undertaken for this Plan Change. The Committee gave the following suggestions:

- Split the District Plan up into parts and then implement a cyclical review of each part. This would decrease the work-load associated with undertaking a review of the entire Plan.
- A review needs to focus on the areas that are most relevant at the time (e.g. roading and forestry currently).
- Potential for a review to coincide with a triennium to avoid 'dumping' on a new Council.

The Committee discussed ways to remedy the issue of Council being removed from the governance role in some of the process. It was suggested that Council could set parameters for staff to work within when holding pre-hearing negotiations with submitters.

Cr Gordon 1.25pm / 1.26pm

## **8 The 2050 Challenge – future proofing our communities (LGNZ discussion paper)**

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the item. He had discussed some of the Committee's initial thoughts with LGNZ. One specific piece of feedback from LGNZ was a preference for establishing working parties rather than have councils work individually on an issue.

The Committee discussed whether or not the already established Community Well-Being groups (Treasured Natural Environment Group, Buoyant District Economy Theme Group etc.) could be incorporated into this initiative.

His Worship the Mayor 1.43 pm/1.45 pm.

The Committee discussed how they saw the process for this initiatives working. They identified the need for to process to achieve the focus points that come out of this initiative to be fluid enough to adapt to change. LGNZ might need to provide some funding. It was important that the process was not dominated by issues that solely affect urban/metro areas.

Mr Hodder agreed to rework the feedback to be provided to LGNZ and circulate it to the Committee via email. His Worship the Mayor will sign off the final document before it is submitted.

## **9 External risks to roading**

The Committee considered having a discussion with Horizons might be a useful way to progress this issue.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/077**                      **File Ref**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that it endorses an approach to Horizons Regional Council to discuss developing a code of practice to reduce the risk of storm damage to the roading network from adjoining land use and waterways, starting with forestry and hill-country cropping.

Cr Gordon / Cr Sheridan. Carried

His Worship the Mayor: 1.56pm / 1.56pm

The Committee asked that the intended meeting with forest owners (as discussed at the Assets/Infrastructure Committee) be held. Damage to roads could come from the logging vehicles as well as the harvested land.

Cr Ash: 2.23 pm/2.29 pm.

## 10 Activity Management

Ms Servante spoke briefly to the item. A full report on the future provision of Youth Services in Rangitikei will be presented to the September 2016 Council meeting.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/078**                      **File Ref**

That the activity management templates for Community Leadership, Environmental and Regulatory Services and Community Well-Being (August 2016) be received.

Cr Ash / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

## 11 Update on Communications Strategy

Ms Downs spoke briefly to the update, highlighting the impending addition of an online payment facility to Council's website.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/079**                      **File Ref**                      3-CT-15-1

That the update on the Communications Strategy to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 15 September 2016 be received.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Peke-Mason. Carried

## 12 Update on Legislation and Governance Issues

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the report, highlighting the release of the supporting documents from the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment for the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act and the ability for Council to adopt a policy around Easter Sunday trading within Rangitikei District.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/080**                      **File Ref**                      **3-OR-3-5**

That the report 'Update on Legislation and Governance Issues' to the Policy/Planning Committee meeting on 15 September 2016 be received.

Cr Aslett / Cr Ash. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/081**                      **File Ref**                      **3-OR-3-5**

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that it adopts for consultation, using the special consultative procedure, a draft policy allowing those shops not already exempt under the Shop Trading Hours Act to open on Easter Sunday either throughout the whole Rangitikei District or within particular Wards of the District, with consultation to be from 11 October 2016 to 11 November 2016, with oral hearings on 1 December 2016 and deliberations on 15 December 2016.

His Worship the Mayor / Cr Rainey. Carried

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the 'Better urban planning' document:

- Agrees with the idea of flexibility around land use in urban areas but suggested that consideration of previous land use is important too.
- Supportive of more flexibility within the Resource Management Act around consultation with affected parties.
- Supportive of increasing the understanding of Maori interests and discussed the options Council has identified to better engage with Maori. Also discussed the need to engage with other significant ethnic groups.
- Supportive of the ability to use an Independent Hearing Panel for minor issues or dependent on the scale of the Plan change. Suggested the need to bring a local aspect to the panel along with highly qualified experts. Useful to be able to opt out of such a panel if the issue were deemed minor.
- National bottom-lines need to be identified by Central Government (National Policy Statements) and implemented throughout the country.
- Generally supportive of the idea of Spatial Plans, but risk of duplication and doubtful whether it should be considered more strategic than the Long Term Plan – if only because that had defined community engagement in its development. Potentially hard to implement one Spatial Plan District-Wide.
- Tools need to be developed for declining populations as well.

Cr Ash & His Worship the Mayor returned to the meeting 3.25pm

Cr Peke-Mason left the meeting 4.04pm

Cr Ash 4.08pm / 4.11pm

His Worship the Mayor 4.25pm / 4.27pm

## **13 Investigation of Requested Speed Limit Reduction around Kauangaroa**

Mr Hodder spoke briefly to the item.

The Committee was supportive of the proposed amendment to the Speed Limit Bylaw being put to Council for approval.

<b>Resolved minute number</b>	<b>16/PPL/082</b>	<b>File Ref</b>	<b>6-RT-6-4</b>
1	That the GHD report 'Kauangaroa Road – Speed Limit Development Rating Survey' be received.		
2	That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that (having regard to section 156 of the Local Government Act 2002) the proposed change to the speed limit bylaw for an 80 km/h section around Kauangaroa is not likely to have a significant impact on the public and therefore consultation does not require the use of the special consultative procedure.		
3	That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that it adopts for consultation, having regard for Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, the introduction of a new 80 km/h speed limit along Kauangaroa Road from the western end of the Whangaehu River Bridge, with consultation to be from 11 October 2016 to 11 November 2016, oral hearings on 1 December 2016 and deliberations on 15 December 2016.		
4	That the Policy/Planning Committee notes that there will need to be liaison with Whanganui District Council around the change in speed limit being on a boundary bridge.		

Cr Ash / Cr Aslett. Carried

## **14 Complaints Policy**

The Committee noted the update provided on the development of a Complaints Policy and the intention to develop such a policy for later consideration.

## **15 Earthquake-prone Buildings Policy and Survey**

Ms Gray spoke briefly to the report.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/083**                      **File Ref**                      3-PY-1-6

- 1        That the report 'Earthquake-prone Buildings Policy and Survey' be received.
- 2        That, subject to new information being presented at oral hearings, the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that Council adopt [without amendment/as further amended] the proposed amendments to the Earthquake-prone Buildings Policy as outlined [in Appendix 3 of the report to the Committee] to reflect (a) its intent that no enforcement action will be undertaken for non-compliance with the current policy and (b) that the policy will lapse with the commencement of the Building (Earthquake-prone buildings) Amendment Act on 1 July 2017.

Cr Aslett / Cr Gordon. Carried

## **16 Bulls Multi-Purpose Community Centre – project update**

The Committee noted the update provided on the Bulls Multi-Purpose Community Centre.

## **17 Maori Community Development Programme**

Ms Servante spoke briefly to the item, highlighting the positive relationship that has come from this collaboration with Ngati Hauiti.

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/084**                      **File Ref**                      3-GF-10-7

That the final accountability report for the Maori Community Development Programme 2015/16, delivered through the MOU arrangement with Ngati Hauiti, be received.

Cr McNeil / Cr Aslett. Carried

## **18 Update on the Path to Well-Being Initiative**

**Resolved minute number**                      **16/PPL/085**                      **File Ref**                      1-CO-4

That the memorandum 'Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative and other community development programmes – September 2016' be received.

Cr Sheridan / Cr Gordon. Carried

## **19 Late Items**

Nil



**20 Future Items for the Agenda**

Nil

**21 Next meeting**

This is the Committee's last meeting for the triennium

**22 Meeting closed**

4.46 pm

**Confirmed/Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmed/Chief Executive:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_